THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS SYASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Fransmitted herewith for filing is the Utility patent application of:

INVENTOR:

NAOHIRO FURUKAWA, HISASHI IKEDA, HIROSHI

SAKO AND YOSUKE KATO

For:

MAIL SYSTEM AND MAIL SERVICE

Enclosed are:

- 16 sheets of □ formal □ informal drawings.
- Priority Request transmitting certified copy of Japanese Patent application 2003-375094 to claim the priority date of November 5, 2003
- ☑ An Assignment to Hitachi, Ltd.
- ☑ An Executed Declaration.
- ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement Form 1449 with references

In the filing fee is calculated as shown below:

For	Number Filed		Number Extra	RATE	CALCULATIONS
TOTAL CLAIMS	16	-20	0	x\$18 =	0.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	2	-3	0	x\$86 =	0.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable) +\$290 =					
			BASIC FEE		\$770.00
			TOTAL OF ABOVE		\$770.00
		•	37 C.F.R.§ 1.9, 1.27, 1.28).		
IF APPLICABLE, VERIFIEI	SIAIEMENT	MUST BE AT TAC	HED	TOTAL	\$770.00

- $|\mathbf{X}|$ A check in the amount of \$810.00 to cover the filing fees and assignment fee is enclosed.
- \boxtimes The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication, including patent application filing fees and processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number 08-1480.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley P. Fisher

Registration Number 24,344

uan Carlos A. Marque

Registration Number 34,072

REED SMITH LLP

3110 Fairview Park Drive **Suite 1400** Falls Church, Virginia 22042 (703) 641-4200 January 29, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of)
FURUKAWA et al.)
Application Number: To be Assigned)
Filed: Concurrently Herewith)
For: MAIL SYSTEM AND MAIL SERVICE	, -)
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. ASAM.0102)

Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

REQUEST FOR PRIORITY UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 119 AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Sir:

In the matter of the above-captioned application for a United States patent, notice is hereby given that the Applicant claims the priority date of November 5, 2003, the filing date of the corresponding Japanese patent application 2003-375094.

A certified copy of Japanese patent application 2003-375094 is being submitted herewith. Acknowledgment of receipt of the certified copy is respectfully requested in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley P. Fisher

Registration Number 24,344

Juan Carlos A. Marquez Registration Number 34,072

REED SMITH LLP 3110 Fairview Park Drive Suite 1400 Falls Church, Virginia 22042 (703) 641-4200 January 29, 2004